Vol. XVIII No. 9.
Of the Church—By the Church—For the Church

Luther League Review

Leif Erikson

C. O. SOLBERG.

LEIF, the Lucky! Leif, the son of Erik the Red, was born in Iceland in the year 970. Born in the land of Snorri, he was bred in the even less hospitable land elusively known as Greenland, whither his father removed when he was of tender age, making the family home thereafter at Brattahlid. This change, as well as the original emigration from Norway, was due to the deeds of murder done by the hand of Erik, who thence derived the title he bears in succeeding history. Nevertheless Leif was a true son of the fjord. For the

STATUE IN HUMBOLDT PARK, CHICAGO.

word "viking" is derived from the "vi," meaning fjord, and "king," which is a patronymic.

In 986 Bjarni, son of Hjerulf, sea wanderer, was journeying to Greenland. Driven from his course by terrific storms, he had sighted land in a most unexpected quarter, and repeatedly. On his return to Norway in 994 his account excited no little speculation. These reports reached the ear of Leif, for in 998 he sailed into Nidaros on a visit to King Olaf. On his return to Brattahlid we read that "Leif begged his father Erik to go as commander of the expedition, but he excused himself, saying that he was getting old and not so able as formerly to undergo the hardships of the sea voyage." Leif insisted that he himself among all their relations was most likely to have good luck on such an expedition. He sailed from Brattahlid with one ship and thirty-five men in the year 1000.

The story of this voyage of discovery, as well as of the succeeding events, is related in two "Saga" accounts, both derived apparently from "Are, the Wise," who in turn obtained them from one of the number who originally accompanied Leif to Greenland. The account given of the geography and of the natural phenomena, as the historian says, bears "the earmarks of truth."

Peculiarly enough, one of the party that accompanied Leif was a German, named Tyrker. A war captive, Leif had taken great fancy to him and had kept him about his own person. One day after they had been for some time in the new country he disappeared. Search was vain until the missing man himself came in sight. "Weintrauben! Weintrauben!" he cried. His joy over finding the fruit, which so reminded him of his native home, filled him with laughter and excited glee, and he alternately devoured grapes and shouted German until they could remind him that it was to them an unknown tongue. Thus originated the name Vinland, which was undoubtedly applied by them to some part of the New England coast.

In the spring of the year 1001 Leif returned to Greenland with a cargo of timber. He was given the name Leif the Lucky, first because he had discovered Vinland the Good, and secondly because on this return trip he had rescued a crew of fifteen men, shipwrecked on a chance rock in the Western ocean.

"After this Leif advanced greatly in wealth and consideration." Upon the death of his father he became ruler of Greenland, Helluland, Markland and Vinland. Helluland means slate land and apparently refers to Labrador. Markland means woodland and is variously applied to Cape Breton Island and Nova Scotia. His title to empire was therefore more of a dream than of a reality; and yet what a reality lay upon its confine. We appreciate the thrill of wonder and expectation with which the hardy Norsemen on the waste and frozen shores of Greenland called the distant region Vinland the Good. We inquire in perplexity why their discoveries so little affected the world. First, because of the political and commercial state of Europe and here we need name only the lack of the compass. And again, because of the geographical ignorance of the Norsemen. Remember that even Columbus thought to seek the shores of India. Thus the geographical ideas of the time rested securely in great misapprehensions.

Various things give charm to the character of Leif. In the words of the Saga: "Leif was a large man and strong, of noble aspect, prudent, and moderate in all things." Not least interesting, even over against his bold and original force of character and heroism of deed, is the fact that on his visit to King Olaf at Nidaros in 998-999, he accepted Christianity and took back to his father's colony the missionaries of the Cross. It was said that he possessed a heart singularly open to the teachings of Christ.

His statue is one of the attractions in Humboldt Park, Chicago. Its heroic proportions are in keeping with his hardy daring. It is well to remember his place in American annals. It is a part of history we can ill afford to dispense with in these days of research.

The Holy Bible

There is no gift so universally appreciated as a copy of the Holy Bible. One of the great advantages of our day is the number of copies extant and the variety of tongues in which it is sent out to the world. Another is its cheapness.

It is a complete library in itself. There are specimens of all kinds of literature. The descriptive writer of prose, the poet, the historian, the orator, the singer, the inventor and the seeker after God and His law may all drink of its clear, pure waters and be satisfied. But while it holds up the mirror to every human thought, its chief mission to the world is to tell us of Christ Jesus, our Lord and our Life.

Luther League of Ohio.

Tenth Convention at Cleveland, August 30 and 31.

BY MISS ELDA M. PIERO.

THE tenth annual convention of the Luther League of Ohio was held on August 30 and 31 in the C. E. Memorial Church, Cleveland.

The convention was opened on Wednesday, August 30, with devotional services, conducted by Rev. Richards, of Zanesville, Ohio, after which the President, Rev. J. C. Schindel, of Newark, took the chair and greetings from local and district Leagues were received. These, at the very beginning, struck the keynote of the convention, "Ora et Labora"—Pray and Work.

literature to the requirements of our young people.

The session on Thursday morning began with devotional services, conducted by Rev. Schindel. Reports of officers followed.

The President's report spoke of progress during the past year and contained several valuable recommendations, which were adopted later in the form of resolutions.

The Statistical Secretary's report showed the following totals:

Senior Societies, 66; membership, 2,703; Junior Societies, 10, membership, 377; local

WHERE THE OHIO LUTHER LEAGUE MET IN CONVENTION.

On the adjournment of the session the delegates and visitors, numbering about 100, were taken for a trolley excursion to Euclid Beach Park. This was in every respect a most delightful event.

The evening session was opened with the Vesper Service, conducted by Rev. Miller, after which Rev. H. C. Hadley, pastor loci, delivered the address of welcome, to which President Schindel responded. Owing to the unavoidable absence of Rev. F. W. E. Peschau, who was to have delivered the address of the evening, Rev. George H. Schnur, of Chillicothe, spoke on "Lutheran Young People and Lutheran Literature." His discourse was a strong, rational statement of the adaptability of Lutheran

offerings, $1,148.56; benevolent offerings, $632.63; number of LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEWS taken, 304; number of Luther League Topics taken, 1,510.

There are in the State organization fifteen more locals and two more districts than last year.

The morning's business was followed by a series of papers on the first part of the convention theme, "Prayer." The first subject, "The Prayer Life From Word and Sacrament," was presented by Rev. Schnur. He spoke of the insistence of the Lutheran Church on pure doctrine and life in harmony therewith, and the position of the Luther League that prayer and work go hand in hand. The

prayer life is founded on the Word and Sacraments.

Since the revealed Word of God is unchanging and infallible, the "old path" (Jer. 6:16) is the only safe one. And, in the conflict between faith and rationalism (which came to an issue in the Marburg Colloquy, but did not end there), we should stand firmly for the Word, and hold to our faith in the Sacraments.

Rev. A. B. Markley, of Mansfield, spoke on the second subject, "The Prayer Life and the Home." He said, in part, that "Prayer is a means to the reception of grace through the Means of Grace, intended not only for public, but for private and family use. The prayer life is the true foundation of the home life, its unifying power, its light and inspiration and its protection." At the conclusion of Rev. Markley's address the President quite appropriately announced the hymn, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus!"

Mr. Cortland Miller, of Plymouth, spoke next, on "The Prayer Life and the State." He called attention to the phenomenal growth of the Lutheran Church in America. It was said in Colonial times that "The people made the laws and the Church made the people." The true Church does touch the entire life of the community. Then the Lutheran Church, with the authority of truth behind her, and giving the Gospel in its fullness—which is adapted to every age and class—with her Luther League working in prayer and faith for the best interests of the youth, surely finds in the United States a great field.

The last topic, "The Prayer Life and the Church," was presented by Miss Emma Mast, of Zanesville. Miss Mast showed the danger of materialism to the Church, in this age of intense activity, when there is a tendency to adopt the world's methods and forget that "God's ways are not our ways." Communion with God in prayer is a reality; and we need to be in constant and direct communication with Him, our Leader. The world's greatest men have been men of prayer—Moses, David, Daniel, Christ. By the united prayers and efforts of all branches of our Church, which would include all individual effort, great things can be accomplished in establishing the Kingdom of Christ in the hearts of men.

The session closed with the singing of Luther's "Battle Hymn."

Rev. C. E. Gardner, of Bucyrus, led the devotional services at the opening of the afternoon session.

The numbers on the afternoon program were all in application of the subjects discussed in the morning:

"The Work Life from the Prayer Life"—(1) In the Reading Course and Topics, Rev. C. E. Gardner, Bucyrus; (2) In the Local and District League, Rev. G. G. Clark, Lucas; (3) In Missions, Inner, Home and Foreign, Rev. E. L. T. Engers, Barberton; (4) In the State and National League, Rev. L. M. Kuhns.

Rev. Gardner said, in part, that the literature of any people indicates their moral and spiritual development. He endorsed the Luther League Topics because they make of our young men and women intelligent students of God's word and of the church, and loyal workers in the Church. "To know the Lutheran Church is to love her; and to love her is to be loyal to her." His second point in favor of the Topics was that they develop the right kind of piety, the constant piety that tells in word and deed, that grows from a sincere desire to worship the true God in an intelligent manner. Thirdly, he recommended the Topics as a great unifying means in our Church, telling, as they so often do, of the work of all its branches, all are "One in faith, one in doctrine, one in hope, one in Christ Jesus, our common Lord," and it means much to the youth of our Church today "to know of the doctrine whether it be of God"—and also to know his brother.

Rev. Clark based his remarks on the example of the Master, whose great works were preceded and followed by prayer, and who said, "He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also." He gave helpful suggestions as to the field of activity which the faith of the individual can find in the local League.

On the third topic Rev. Engers, having spoken of the great field, the world, and the few laborers in it, named prayer as the secret of success. Like her praying Redeemer, the Church needs, first, the prayer life, and the work life, consecrated and triumphant, will result.

Rev. L. M. Kuhns, the National Secretary, brought greetings from the Indiana State League, then in session, and tidings of growing interest in the Luther League throughout the country.

He urged a more perfect organization in which local is responsible to district, district to State and State to national. His entire discourse was practical, energetic and helpful.

The report of the nominating committee followed, their report being adopted as presented, and was as follows: For president, Marvin W. Lutz, Canton, Ohio; vice president, Rev. E. L. T. Engers, Barberton; recording secretary, Miss Maud Kappas, Zanesville; Statistical secretary, Miss Estella Hartman, Chillicothe; treasurer, Charles Matthes, Mansfield.

THE LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW was represented by Rev. Schnur, and 110 new subscriptions were taken in a very few minutes. The General Secretary was instructed to extend greetings to other conventions as he attended them.

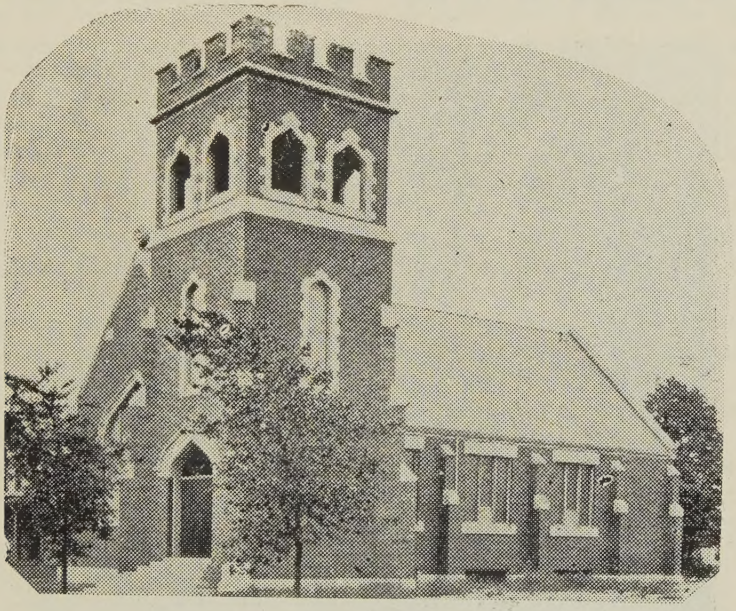
The evening, and last, session was held in the First Lutheran Church, Rev. A. L. Benze pastor. This splendid little church had just been dedicated on the Sabbath preceding the convention, and with the League colors for decorations presented a fine appearance when opened for the evening session. The vesper service was used and was conducted by the pastor, Rev. Benze. At the conclusion of the vespers the following committees were appointed by the president:

Extension—Rev. O. D. Baltzley, Mansfield, Ohio, chairman; Perry O. Getter, Miami Valley District; Cortlan Miller, Springfield District; Earl Greiner, Zanesville District; A. C. Holloway, Akron, Ohio, Northeastern Ohio District.

Program Committee—Rev. C. E. Gardner, Bucyrus, Ohio; Rev. A. B. Marley, Mansfield; Dr. Emery, Ashland, Ohio.

Rev. Engers, in a few words of hearty appreciation, extended the thanks of the convention to Revs. Hadley and Benze and their churches for their hospitality extended the visitors and delegates.

Rev. L. M. Kuhns addressed the convention for a few minutes, and said, in part, that the Luther League, as a part of the Lutheran Church, is based on the Word of God and the unaltered Augsburg Confession as its exponent; that its governmental principle is federation, and its working principle co-operation, and the outcome of such principles is loyalty, intelligent labor and a spirit of larger giving to the work of the Church.



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH, CLEVELAND.
Where the Closing Session Was Held.

Rev. R. E. McDaniel, of Corry, Pa., delivered an able address on "The Old Faith in the New Land." He traced the influence of God's revelations to man, from patriarchal days to the Reformation in Germany, which restored to the world "Christianity in its purest form and intensest application."

He then spoke of the beginning of the

(*Continued on page 15.*)

St. Mark's Church, Washington.

A FEW months ago there was dedicated in the city of Washington, the capital city of the nation, a beautiful new house of worship, the home of St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran congregation, of which Rev. J. Luther Frantz is the pastor.

The former church edifice of the congregation was destroyed by fire February 12 last, and "with a pluck and determination that has always characterized the work of the congregation," says the Washington *Star*, "the members have erected an edifice more beautiful than the first."

The new church building occupies the lot on the southwest corner of Eighth and B streets, 40 x 120 feet.

There are three entrances to the church, one large central doorway leading to a vestibule 9 x 17 feet, and an entrance beneath either tower. These tower entrances lead to vestibules from which one may enter directly to the main auditorium or pass through to the large central vestibule. The seats of the church are so arranged that aisles are formed along both side walls and in the centre. The interior dimensions of the church are 38 x 50 feet, and will give a comfortable seating capacity of 280.

In the rear of the auditorium, facing the entrances, is a raised platform forming the chancel, which extends across the entire width of the church and projects 13 feet. The center of the platform is approached by a flight of steps, to the right of which is the pulpit and to the left the lecturn, furnished by the Gorham Manufacturing Company. The altar is in the rear. This section is lighted by a large circular window, glazed with cathedral glass. This window is the gift of the Lutheran churches of Baltimore, the design being by R. Geissler. It is one of the main features of the church, as its toned, colored glass lends a soft and pleasing light to this arched and vaulted section. To the right of this central section is the choir and organ loft, the organ being the work of M. P. Moller, of Hagerstown, Md., while to the left is the baptismal font.

The building is Romanesque in style of architecture, and presents a very attractive and picturesque appearance. The exterior is finished in roughcast work and pebble dashed. The quoins and facings for all openings and

projections in the towers are of gray, mottled brick.

In the work of raising St. Mark's from the ashes the pastor has been most ably assisted by a building committee, of which the president of the church council, Cornelius Eckhardt, A.M., was the chairman, and to whom is due much praise for his faithful, energetic, self-sacrificing work. Mr. Eckhardt is well known to our readers as the former business manager of THE REVIEW and also the first treasurer of the Luther League of America.

Tenth Anniversary of the Luther League

October 31, 1905.

AS was suggested in our last number, every Luther League is urged to arrange at once for the first decennial anniversary of the Luther League of America on October 31.

For the convenience of those Leagues who wish to use it, the Literature Secretary of the National League, Rev. Chas. L. Fry, has prepared a program which follows. This can be used intact, modified, or something else substituted.

Program for the DECENNIAL CELEBRATION of the LUTHER LEAGUE OF AMERICA

1. *Hymn*—"Come Holy Spirit, God and Lord." Luther's hymn of invocation, as it has been sung during the four centuries since Protestantism began (No. 123 in Luther League Hymnal).
2. *Psalm* 46 (read responsively).
3. *Prayer.*
4. *Hymn*—"A Mighty Fortress is Our God." The great reformer's battle hymn, which has been translated into every language of Christendom (No. 140 in Luther League Hymnal).
5. *Address*—"Greater Christian Activity."
6. *Hymn*—Luther League Rally Hymn (No. 135 in the Luther League Hymnal).
7. *Offering*—For the furtherance of the work of the Luther League of America—to be sent to John F. Dinkey, Treasurer, Rochester, N. Y.
8. *Address*—"Loyalty to Our Church."
9. *Hymn*—"Wake, Wake, for Night is Flying." Another grand old XVI. century choral (No. 249 in the Luther League Hymnal).
10. *Closing Service*—Prayer and benediction.

Important Program Notes

BY REV. CHARLES L. FRY.

There is not a single Luther League in any city, town or hamlet of the United States which can afford to miss the opportunity of quickening its members' zeal, by uniting with all other Leagues throughout the length and breadth of the land in celebrating the coming Decennial on Sunday evening, October 29. Nor dare we waste any time in beginning to make preparations. If the program suggested in this issue is to be successfully carried out, nothing is of greater concern than a whole-souled and careful rendition of the music, which naturally constitutes so large a part of a festival like this. By all means invite the aid of friends of the League who have good voices, the more the better, for this one occasion. A splendid big chorus would, above everything else, make the day one to be long remembered.

The music of all the hymns on the program are found in the Luther League Hymnal, and the words are in the hymn books used in the churches.

The themes of the two addresses are taken word for word from Article II. of the Luther League's constitution, which sets forth the two pre-eminent objects of our organization. Hence we cannot do better than here reiterate them once more, with all the accruing emphasis of these ten years of experience and effort. Whilst neither of the two addresses ought to exceed fifteen minutes, every moment of that limited time should be so skeletonized that each essential phase of the subject be brought to our people's attention.

Avoid glittering generalities. Be very definite and minute in making practical application to the particular circumstances in your own town, even if you can give but two or three pungent sentences to each.

Then in the closing address, on the subject of "Loyalty to Our Church," there is excellent opportunity to put in a good word for our Topics and REVIEW and Reading Course.

Luther League of Indiana.

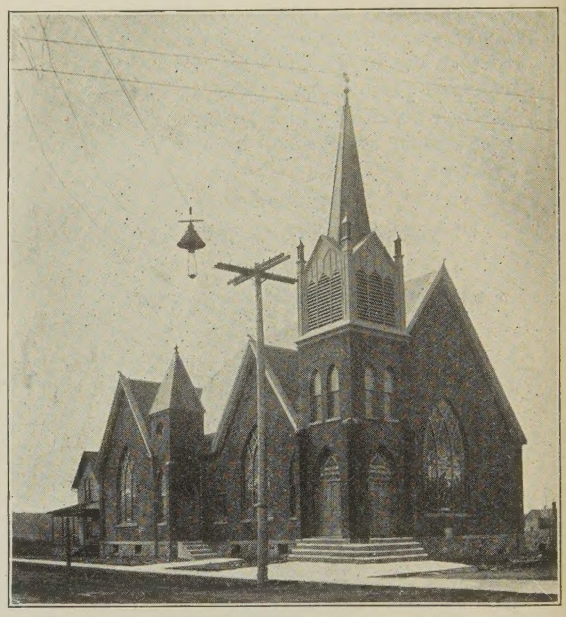
Eighth Annual Convention at Milwaukee, August 29 and 30.

BY REV. W. BRENNER.

THE annual convention of the Luther League of Indiana was held August 29-30 in the First Church at Mishawaka, Rev. M. E. Boulton pastor.

Indiana is one of the best States in the Union; but, as we are informed, it does not have the largest and best Luther League. Judging from the number of years it has been in existence and the large Lutheran population in this State, the organization should be a strong one.

But though the attendance was small, the convention was interesting and profitable to all, and evidences of growth and prosperity were not wanting, and the future is brighter with prospects for internal and external development than at any time in the past. The local Leagues are in many cases taking on new life, and new organizations are springing up and applying for membership. The General Secretary, Rev. Luther M. Kuhns, who has and is still doing so much for the Luther League and whose vigorous prosecution of the work entrusted to him promises to make the Luther League one of the best equipped and most powerful agencies for good in the Church, expressed himself as having been much pleased with the marked signs of new life and energy displayed, and spoke encouragingly of the power and activity that were beginning to manifest themselves. The Luther League has made many members of the Church pulsate with a new life and spirit; it has called into exercise the slumbering latent force of its junior membership, and broadened and deepened its interest, its aims and its ambitions. The Church cannot but be benefited by the awakened interest and aroused Christian zeal and heroism in behalf of the extension and strengthening of our Lutheran Zion on the part of her young people. We were again reminded at the convention in Mishawaka that our privileges as young Lutherans were great, our duties numerous and our responsibilities momentous, because in no land and among no people was there ever, nor is there now, a spiritual heritage so holy and precious as ours. We have met and greeted each other, as fellow Christians, showed our mutual respect and reciprocal confidences as members of the same household of faith, and returned to our various fields of labor instructed, encouraged and inspired to perform with greater cheerfulness, alacrity and success the obligations that are imposed upon us. The officers for the ensuing year are: Rev. L. J. Motschmaur, Fort Wayne, president; Rev. W. J. Seiberling, Mulberry, Ind., vice president; Miss Dora Andersen, South Bend, Ind. secretary; Mr. Louis B. Magne, Camden, Ind., treasurer; Rev. Elmer D. S. Boyer, Lafayette, statistical secretary. The executive committee is composed of Rev. Motschman, Rev.



FIRST CHURCH OF MISHAWAKA, IND.

Seiberling and Rev. Brenner, and the extension committee of the same persons. Efforts will be made to have the Laporte District unite with the State League. This will add considerably to our strength, and improve and augment the character and influence of the State League. In such close geographical as well as historical and doctrinal connection and with views and ways so much alike, not to say identically the same, but one thing is necessary to bring about this much desired and important affiliation and co-operation in matters pertaining to our common interest and welfare—acquaintance. The lack of this is the prime reason for our divided existence, and

to bring our Lutheran young people of this State together in mutual love and admiration and unite them for the highest achievements in the Church constitutes the chief and fundamental problem with which the extension committee has to deal.

Rev. Loferen, of Michigan City, Ind., president of the Laporte District, attended the State convention and made an excellent address. His influence will do much to accomplish the object in view. Several visitors from the Laporte District were also present and we hope received an impression that will move them to exert their powers in the direction indicated above. Rev. Peter was present from the Ohio Synod. He is about to organize a League and may unite with the State League, and there are others who will do likewise. Indiana can and some day may have one of the largest State Luther Leagues in the national organization. That will add another to its already numerous laurel wreaths. Here dwell the greatest statesmen, the leading educators of the country, the best farmers, the best writers in both prose and verse; also here are found the largest number of rural routes, the best trolley lines, the best steam railroad tracks—the Twentieth Century Flyer makes its best time running through this State. Things are moving rapidly, and the State Luther League is beginning to imbibe the spirit of its environments, and will make more rapid progress in the future. We have interests at stake and need new animation to do the work for which the time, means and opportunity are given up. Loyalty, Literature and Labor—the three L's descriptive of the character and aims of the League—were the keynote of the convention. The speakers were all in a spirit to do justice to the subjects assigned them, and the instruction and inspiration received will never be forgotten. The choir of the First Church deserves special mention for their contribution to the success of the convention. The anthems were all appropriate and pleasing in their effect. The pastor had heartily welcomed the delegates in a short address, responded to by the president, after which Rev. W. K. Frick, D. D., of Milwaukee, made remarks on the "Best Method of Using the 'League Topics.'" In the evening Dr. Frick spoke on the subject "The Old Faith in the New Tongue." It was an eloquent tribute to the nobility and genuineness of the Lutheran confessions and an earnest plea for the propagation of the truth as the Bible reveals and our Church teaches and confesses the truth. He emphasized the supreme importance of defending and upholding the chief and distinctive doctrines of Lutheranism in whatever language it is most expedient and the circumstances seem to require. "The faith is *everything;* the tongue is only a means and instrument." Rev. Loferen delivered an instructive address on "Works of Mercy in the Lutheran Church" at the last afternoon session, and Rev. S. J. McDowell, of Springfield, Ohio, and the General Secretary of the League, Rev. L. M. Kuhns, delighted and swayed the audience in the evening with their persuasive oratory on the theme "Our Lutheran Young People and Home Missions." Who would not think more of and show greater devotion and loyalty to his Church after listening to such a conservative and inspiring address as that delivered to a large and appreciative audience August 30 at Mishawaka, just prior to the closing of the convention, by Rev. Kuhns? In proportion as we believe in and carry out the principles then and there stated by that devoted and enthusiastic champion of the cause of our Church and her young people will be the measure of our growth and prosperity as a League, in the local congregation, in the district and in the State. Godspeed to our General Secretary and the Luther League of Indiana!

N. B.—The next convention will be held at Indianapolis.

Luther League of Ohio.

Tenth Convention.

(*Continued from page* 11.)

Lutheran Church in America in the seventeenth century and its well deserved progress since.

The Old Church is our Church, the new land is our land, and the old faith is well able to meet the new conditions and fulfill these later day needs.

Among the musical features of the several sessions were anthems by the choirs of the two churches, and two solos by a delegate from the Swedish Augustana Synod, which were very much enjoyed.

The convention closed with the singing of the Luther League Rally Hymn.

Luther League Topics

15th Sunday after Trinity. Oct. 1, 1905.

The Power of the Word

Heb. 4: 12-16.

Doctrinal Topic Reviewed by Rev. C. Armand Miller, D.D.

Questions to be answered in brief papers.—Give evidence of the power of God's Word. Distinguish between the *efficacy* of God's Word and its *effect*. How should we hear and use God's Word, in the light of the truths of this lesson?

Lessons for our own lives: 1. *We need more faith in the reality of the power of God's Word.* As the Preacher said. (Ecc. 8:4), "Where the word of a king is, there is power." When a king speaks, commands, promises, there is always, behind the word, all the might of his authority, of the machinery of his government, of the resources of his treasury. Power goes with his word. How much more certainly must the words be true when the Word is that of the King of Kings, and all His power is behind it! And yet, suggestive as is the phrase of the Preacher, it is not adequate to describe the power of the Word of God, because here is, in addition, a divine, supernatural, mystical union of God Himself, God the Holy Ghost, with the Word. It is a question not merely of resources sufficient to enforce the Word, material resources to accomplish physical ends, but of spiritual force, united with the Word, making a channel of the Word, through which God's presence with all His gracious influences are brought to bear upon the very citadel of a man's life, his heart, as we say, his will. Of course, such a power, always accompanying the Word, written, spoken, preached, sung, embodied in a life, in any form, has and must have real and potent efficacy. But our danger is of not discerning God's presence in His Word, of coming to do it as if it were some man's word, Moses' word, Paul's word. If we believed that this power was real—that God speaks—believed it with a simple realization of the truth, we would never neglect the reading of the Bible, the study of it, the attendance upon the preaching of the Word, the Luther League meeting, the Sunday School, or any opportunity of receiving into our own hearts, so that they might overflow, the currents, rich and vitalizing, of the power of God.

16th Sunday After Trinity. Oct. 8, 1905.

Giving Among the Jews

Mal. 3: 8-12.

Missionary Topic Reviewed by Rev. H. C. Hadley.

The question that confronts many people is, How much shall I give to the Lord's work? It is not proper to govern the amount by what others give. We never hear any one say, "I pray as much or more than another, and therefore do sufficient."

The Jews in their early history had no way of providing for themselves without God miraculously feeding them, yet at one time they gave so liberally for the building of the Tabernacle that Moses was obliged to restrain them; after sufficient had been given to complete it, he commanded to be proclaimed throughout the camp, saying, "Let neither man nor woman make any more work for the offering of the sanctuary."

A law was given which should govern their giving; later in their history they became negligent and indifferent, and disappointment and sorrow came to them, and they departed from the Lord. Our Scripture lesson enforces the importance of their return to Him. Then they ask, "How are we to return? How have we departed from Him? How have we robbed God?" Malachi answers, "In tithes and offerings." In withholding these they robbed God, and as a result were punished with poor seasons and the visitation of locusts.

In the last chapter of Leviticus a law was given to the children of Israel which should govern their living, so that they might neither give too much in their enthusiasm nor too little in their indifference.

1. *It Was Systematic.*—They gave at stated times. St. Paul, in commanding the Corinthians relative to benevolence, said: "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store." Lack of system, no less than no giving, destroys the spiritual life in the heart and in the Church. The successful business man has a plan and system. Should not Christians be as reasonable in their giving to the Lord? The successful church is systematic in all its workings. Many people give spasmodically when it is most convenient; some wait until the end of the year to see how much is necessary, and then give as others give. The business man would not treat his

The Luther League Topics, complete lessons (of which the above are outlines and reviews), in 32-page pamphlet, covering three months, can be supplied at rates given on page 29 by LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW, Box 876, New York, N. Y.

business in that way. No church can prosper without adhering closely to a system. The Jew in his day of prosperity and blessing had an excellent system by which he gave to the Lord at stated times.

2. The Amount of Their Giving.—Moses, wishing to avert the curse of God and receive His highest blessing, lays down a law. "And all the tithes of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the Lord's; it is holy unto the Lord. And concerning the tithe of the herd or of the flock, even of whatsoever passeth under the rod, the tenth shall be holy unto the Lord." Later when Israel received a curse they were informed that the reason was that they disobeyed this command. This was not given to charity; "it is the Lord's." Abraham, who certainly knew God's will, gave a tithe unto the Lord several hundred years before Moses wrote the law. "Of all that thou shalt give me, I will surely give the tenth unto Thee." When Jacob fled from his brother Esau, he vowed a vow, saying, "If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, then shall the Lord be my God, and all that thou give me, I will surely give the tenth to Thee." This was not, however, the limit of giving among the children of Israel. In addition to this they gave free will offerings, such as thank offerings and sin offerings.

While no specific amount is required under the Gospel dispensation, under the law of Christian liberty, should we refuse to give as much as the law required of Israel? Shall we, with all our liberties, prosperities and blessings give less than they? Have we been blessed less than they? Have we robbed God in tithes and offerings? If we have received greater blessings, if we have prospered more, should we not give more? Give as we have been prospered, says Paul.

3. Their Reward.—The Lord promised to open the windows of heaven and richly bless those who brought all the tithes into His storehouse. The obedience of the law always brought them nearer to God; it prepared them for greater blessings. The system of tithing helps us to determine the amount we should give. Then, as now, it was not always easy to determine the amount that should be given. By giving the appointed measure, they had no difficulty in knowing the proper amount and consequently were relieved of great embarrassment.

Then, again, there would not be the danger of applying some of God's due to their own selfish interests which other methods might encourage. Can we not trust the Lord in our day as the Jew did? Giving the tenth did not impoverish the Jew, but enriched him, brought heaven's richest blessing upon him. And today He will surely and abundantly reward those who obediently do His law, and give liberally to His cause. "The liberal soul shall be made fat; and he that watereth shall be watered also himself." "They shall prosper that love Thee." As of old He will open the windows of heaven and richly bless those who bring all the tithes into the storehouse. The Lord Jesus said "It is more blessed to give than to receive." "He who soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he who soweth bountifully shall also reap bountifully." The Church that would prosper must be a giving Church. A curse rested on the ancient Church in its latter days. They had robbed God in tithes and offerings. A revival was promised when they would renew their liberality and bring their tithes and offerings into God's storehouse.

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17th Sunday After Trinity. Oct. 15, 1905.

The Holy Spirit Works Through the Word

John 14: 15-26.

Doctrinal Topic Reviewed by Rev. C. Armand Miller, D.D.

Questions to be answered in brief papers—Why must the work of Christ be followed up by the work of the Holy Spirit? What does the Holy Spirit do? How does He work? Prove that the Spirit uses the Word as His chosen means of operation.

Lessons for our own lives: 1. We can never appreciate *what the Holy Spirit does for us* unless we understand our own helplessness in spiritual things. Christ died for me. But would I even know what His death means for me if holy men of God had not been moved by the Holy Spirit to write the message, the interpretation of redemption? (See II Pet., 1:21.) Knowing the significant story, I must be convinced of my sin, must turn from it, must put my confidence in Christ, as my Saviour—but all this I could never do, and the Holy Spirit must move and enable me to do it, or I would be as if Christ had never died for me. And daily for strength to resist evil and to grow more holy, I must depend on that same Holy Spirit, without whom I could never be faithful or live in Christ. The work of the

Holy Spirit is as indispensable for every Christian as the work of Christ Himself.

2. It is of the greatest importance to us, therefore, that we know *how the Holy Spirit comes to us and works in us.* And we Evangelical Lutherans have cause for great gratitude that the answer comes to us, out of the infallible Word, with such simplicity and clearness. The great Reformer and our fathers in the faith brought that answer to light and held it plainly before the eyes of those who sought to know it. No other body of Christians understands, as we have been taught to do, where to look for the Holy Spirit, how to be sure of receiving Him. He comes, He abides, He works, in all His various offices of blessed efficacy, *through and in the Word.* That is the truth that removes doubt and uncertainty, and that destroys fanaticism and folly. Let us hold it fast, and act upon its rich and manifold suggestions.

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18th Sunday after Trinity. Oct. 22, 1905.

The Luther League as an Educating Agency

I Cor. 12: 27-31.

Topic Reviewed by the Literature Secretary.

The special education number of the REVIEW, issued last month, was full of material for the discussion of this topic. It cannot be too often repeated that any Luther League which is not an "educating agency" (no matter what else it may be) is in so far a total failure in fulfilling the pre-eminent object for which the League movement was organized.

And mark well, this means education of a very specific kind. Not literary or musical (though these features enter in as important incidentals to be by no means undervalued), not scientific or philosophic, not social or financial, but above all, spiritual and religious education, such as our young people do not get in the public schools, nor, alas, even in the home to any considerable extent, and hence if they get it at all, it must be in the church. The house of God must always have the book of God as its chief distinguishing mark. Even "reading courses" must stand aside, and give the Sacred Volume the right of way, as the foremost subject for League study.

The distressing need of far more such study than we now have is attested by our people's woeful ignorance of the Bible's salient doctrines and facts. If this statement strikes you as an exaggeration, test it at any convention for yourself. Begin with the Old Testament, to which this latter half of the Church year directs special attention. Ask some such questions as simple as these:

Which is the Bible's oldest Book? What is its story? What persons are named in it? How much older is this Book than Genesis? How old is Genesis? How much of the Bible story is contained in Genesis? With what narrative does the Book of Exodus begin? At what point does its story stop? What other facts are spoken of in the Books of Moses? Where does the Book of Joshua begin? What can you tell of the people of Israel at the close of this Book, and how had this come to pass? How many Judges are described in the Book bearing that name? Why does the Book of Ruth follow at this point? What prophet anointed the first two Kings? What is the first and last event of I Samuel? How much of the life of David is in I Samuel, and how much in II Samuel? Name four principal persons in I Kings, and five in II Kings? How far does the story in II Kings run? What events are recorded in I and II Chronicles which were previously told in the Scriptures? In which Books were these various events spoken of? Give a brief outline of the story of Ezra? Of Nehemiah? How much of the story of Daniel comes before the captivity, and how much after? Where was the life of Esther spent, and what details do you recall? What was the mode of capital punishment among the Babylonians? Among the Persians? Among the Romans? Among the Jews? Cite an instance of each, in the Bible?

These questions, of course, are only suggestive, but they will serve to test to what extent the Luther League is an educating agency in the most necessary of all knowledge. Another easy mode of examination is to divide the Old Testament into periods of a half millennium each, and ask who was the foremost man living 500, 1000, 1500 and 2000 B. C. Then any other names can easily be placed between these landmarks.

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Reformation Week. October 29, 1905.

The Spread of the Reformation

Acts 4: 17-21.

Historical Topic Reviewed by the Rev. Adolf Hult.

From the anvils of the Reformation movement in Wittenberg flew kindling sparks into all Europe. Luther, the master smith, toiled in the sweat of his brow at the herculean task.

Who ever had greater genius for work than Luther? But he sang while he worked, and there was faith in the song, and the trust of a child. Earnestness throned on his brow, but a smile born of Divine peace would leap forth from his healthy heart to his lips. Around him gathered young apprentices, who, with keen eye, ready hand, courageous heart, learned the master's secret.

The sparks that set Europe ablaze were his tracts, booklets and bulkier tomes which, in that Renaissance age, were read with a lusty appetite. As men devour novels today, more eagerly even did the Renaissance and Reformation minds clutch at every product of Luther's pen, not always because of its Christian content, but because he made men think. And besides, the age was drunk with a desire for new thought, fresh viewpoints and liberty awakening programs. This spirit has found its libertine, rollicking expression in the boisterous laughing, vile, but gigantic genius, Rabelais in France, contemporary of Luther, while never redeemed by Luther's gospel, which he knew, without caring to accept it. Luther and Rabelais represent the two typical upshots of the Renaissance and Reformation—Luther in his Christian regeneration of all spheres of life, Rabelais in the unbridled liberation of the natural man, mind and body, as seen so strikingly in the pagan life at the Papal court in Rome.

Remember, Luther was not a mere Methodist revivalist, although he rivaled any revivalist in attracting the masses. He was a prophet for the whole nation and for the world, in its multitudinous forms of activity, a Christian prophet with an all inclusive mission.

All his acts fired men. The times were by them forced to take sides—a sure proof of his greatness. Only indifferent minds and causes leave men asleep. Forceful personalities make issues and compel men to join issue for and against.

The apprentices that thronged about the master of the Reformation were the hearers of his mighty pulpit utterances and above all the students at the lately founded University of Wittenberg, his colleagues in the faculty, and men of all ranks of life with whom this marvelously social man and brilliant conversationalist came in touch. Like Goethe in the eighteenth century, who was the centre of a brilliant court of leading lights, all that was noted in the age pilgrimaging to this rather pagan culture-patriarch at Weimar, so Luther, the father of a gospel Reformation for heart and life and home and country and unending ages, drew all kinds of men to him—theologians, philologists, musicians, statesmen, poets, social theorizers, seekers of salvation and hard-headed heretics, financiers and, not to be forgotten, begging students, and the unfortunate from all classes. From England, Denmark, Sweden, the Netherlands, and South European countries they came. What an army of apprentices was gradually formed! It spread, again, from Wittenberg to all the German Empire, back to Sweden and Denmark, out to the Netherlands and over to England—yea, even hierarchy-ridden Italy was smitten by the blessed pest! Let it be remembered, though, that the invincible medium of the spread of the Reformation were the common people of Luther's land. His message was often exiled from the courts, but it found a secure refuge in the peasant's hut and in the homes of the commoner in village and city. Whatever in history reaches the ordinary man, finds rock bottom to rest on. Luther's evangel of free grace in Christ and of liberty to conscience, mind and home, was to the common people the longed for "angel entertained unawares" (Heb. 12:2). Oh, how they rejoiced, and how they, like Anna of old, "gave thanks unto God, and spake of 'this message,' to all them that were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem" (Luke 2:38). The Reformation came in the fullness of the times, when human hearts were aching for relief,

> "Thirsting as for dews of even,
> As the new mown grass for rain."

The Baltic provinces soon received Luther's doctrine. A Lutheran school teacher, Andreas Knöpken, exiled from Pommerania, brought it to Riga (1521), in the very year of the Diet at Worms. In Denmark it was above all the Danish monk, Hans Tansen, who had studied in Wittenberg, that zealously and fearlessly preached the gospel in Copenhagen. In 1530 the Confession, called *Confessio Hafnica,* was accepted at a Diet in Copenhagen. From Denmark, Norway was Lutheranized. During three years the rich souled Olans Petri, of Sweden, had studied with Luther, returning in 1519 to Sweden. He, aided by Gustavas Vasa, effected the Reformation in that land. A few years afterwards Catholicism was officially dethroned. With Sweden, Finland also became Lutheran. Even in Austria (by Paul Speratus in 1554), and Bohemia and Hungary and Po-

land churches were won over to the new message, though Catholicism in these parts finally triumphed.

Aye, in Italy and Spain Reformation principles obtained a fleeting foothold in individuals here and there. Cardinal Contarini, of Venice, was tainted with a Lutheran conception of justification by faith. The learned and pious professor in Sienna, Amio Polearis, the supposed author of a truly Lutheran book named "The Benefits of Jesus Christ," quietly spread a wholesome influence. Naples was the centre of the movement, the home of Juan Valdez, a Spaniard, who, by his "Pious Meditations" and by private conventicles, awakened spiritual needs and nourished them. But the bloody-mouthed tiger of the Spanish Inquisition and lynx-eyed, serpent-fanged Order of the Jesuits, founded in 1543 in Spain by Ignatius Loyala, of Basque extraction, soon made a sainted cloud of martyred witnesses of the evangelical confessors, and frightened the wavering into submission to Rome. Northern Europe was wrested from the Pope; Southern Europe was chained to the Papal seat by new fetters, and the present Counter-Reformation began even in Protestant countries.

Whence all this? The Scriptures were brought back to souls not merely by copies of the Bible book, but by a living interpretation of their central message, grasped and personalized, as it were, in a fresh spiritual experience. Or again, as where Rome gained the day, the authority of men triumphed over the truth as it is in Christ. Modern Christendom sees the same history repeated, right in old Lutheran Germany, and in our own dear land.

Must we not back, all of us, to old Wittenberg, for apprenticeship with Luther, the master of the Reformation, who had no "mighty fortress," but God's own Word to defend him in his work?

Enlarged Responsibility

(By the General Secretary)

ENLARGED privilege also means enlarged responsibility. The quiet, steady growth of the Luther League means responsibility. And so, to an inquirer about the condition of our Church, we would answer; The Church must grow intensively as well as extensively. Can our Luther Leagues realize this? May they this decennial year exert a deepening influence upon personal piety, quickening the sense of personal responsibility. Such has been our feeling as we attended the different Luther League conventions.

The eighth annual convention of the Luther League of Indiana was held August 29 and 30 in the First English Lutheran Church of Mishawaka. The president of the State League, Rev. L. J. Motschman, opened the convention and responded to the address of welcome by the pastor, Rev. M. E. Boulton. Rev. Dr. Frick, of Milwaukee, and Rev. S. J. McDowell, Springfield, delivered instructive addresses at the evening sessions. Indiana has an enrollment of fourteen societies, with a membership of 451. The La Porte District Luther League has eleven societies and 347 members, but is not yet a member of the State Luther League. Representatives of this district were present and participated in the program. The convention has put the State work on a stable working basis, and the year opens auspiciously for extension work.

The tenth convention of the Luther League of Ohio was held in the C. E. Memorial and First churches, Cleveland, Ohio, August 30 and 31. The convention theme was: "Ora et Labora"—Pray and Work.

The Word and Sacraments at Work.

"With this hand work, with the other pray,
And God will bless them both from day to day."

In considering the theme "The Groundwork" was first discussed and then the "Application," "The Work Life from the Prayer Life." To each division four fifteen minute papers were assigned, and a general discussion followed the concluding paper of each division. The business sessions opened Thursday morning, when President Rev. J. C. Schindle, Newark, Ohio, presented his report. There were many excellent features in this report. One suggestion was for a more thorough organization of the Ohio State work. Ohio reports seventy-five societies and 2,396 members. During the year fifteen new locals have been organized and one new District League formed. The rally was addressed by the Rev. Dr. R. E.

McDaniels, Corry, Pa. Both churches were beautifully decorated, and Pastors Hadley and and Benze gave the convention royal welcomes to their churches.

These State conventions were very important in inaugurating more perfect State organizations for our Luther League work, and emphasizing the principle of co-ordination in the work of the National, State and District League work. They also defined a purpose of aggressive extension work. All this is a valuable gain.

We were privileged to attend the thirteenth convention of the District League of Northwestern Pennsylvania, at Titusville, Rev. Oscar O. Nelson, pastor. The devotional work and activities of the League were discussed. The attendance was good. The revised constitution in harmony with the State and National work was adopted. The local society gave the convention a trolley ride to points of interest which was greatly appreciated.

The twelfth convention of the District League of Schuylkill County was held at Quakake, Pa. The church was crowded at all sessions of the convention. President A. Raymond Bord, of the Pennsylvania State League, was present, and delivered an interesting address. The reports of the officers and committees showed commendable activity, and there has been steady growth of the work in this district.

The seventeenth convention of the Catawissa District Luther League was held at Elizabethville, Rev. C. F. Kuder, pastor. The growth in this district's work during the year has been substantial, and the representation at the convention most encouraging to its officers. The gain in membership during the year is very gratifying. The discussions centered about promoting interest in church work, and personal responsibility and opportunity in League work.

In all our district conventions it has been a pleasure to note the stress laid on the importance of deeper religious life as the ground for increased Christian activity. And that these district conventions have had encouraging reports from the locals belonging to them, speaks well for the educational work of "Our Topics" along lines quickening our Lutheran consciousness. Our Luther League has value as an educational force in the Church.

We had the opportunity, through the kindness of Dr. Manhart, to look in on Susquehanna University, at Selin's Grove, and to meet some of the professors. This institution is located advantageously for service to the Church in the midst of a large Lutheran constituency. With its new president, Dr. Aikens, at its head, it expects to give a good account of itself to the Church.

Space will not admit of mentioning the local organizations visited. But we would mention the privilege enjoyed of participating in the dedication of the First Lutheran Church, Cleveland, Ohio, Rev. A. L. Benze, pastor, on August 27. The local Luther League in this work has proven itself an efficient helper to the congregation.

LUTHER M. KUHNS.

Daily Bible Readings

Sept. 17. XIII Trinity—Romans 10: 11-21.
Monday—Amos 1: 1-15.
Tuesday—Amos 2: 1-16.
Wednesday—Amos 3: 1-15.
Thursday—Amos 4: 1-13.
Friday—Amos 5: 1-27.
Saturday—Amos 6: 1-14.

Sept. 24. XIV Trinity—I Samuel 8: 1-9.
Monday—John 3: 1-7.
Tuesday—John 8: 30-45.
Wednesday—Acts 2: 37-47.
Thursday—Romans 1: 1-17.
Friday—Philippians 2: 12-16.
Saturday—II Corinthians 3: 1-11.

Oct. 1. XV Trinity—Hebrews 4: 12-16.
Monday—Genesis 28: 1-22.
Tuesday—Exodus 30: 11-16.
Wednesday—Deuteronomy 16: 16, 17.
Thursday—I Chronicles 29: 6-9.
Friday—Ezekiel 46: 1-5.
Saturday—Ezra 3: 1-5.

Oct. 8. XVI Trinity—Malachi 3: 8-12.
Monday—Genesis 1: 1-31.
Tuesday—Isaiah 11: 1-9.
Wednesday—Isaiah 40: 12-17.
Thursday—John 16: 7-15.
Friday—I Corinthians 2: 9-18.
Saturday—Revelations 22: 1-29.

Oct. 15. XVII Trinity—John 14: 15-26.
Monday—Romans 12: 1-21.
Tuesday—Ephesians 1: 1-23.
Wednesday—Colossian 1: 1-29.
Thursday—Acts 12: 1-9.
Friday—Ephesians 4: 1-16.
Saturday—II Corinthians 6: 1-18.

Oct. 22. XVIII Trinity—Corinthians 12: 27-31.
Monday—Joshua 6: 1-27.
Tuesday—II Kings 1: 1-18.
Wednesday—II Chronicles 29: 1-11.
Thursday—Matthew 9: 27-31.
Friday—Mark 7: 31-37.
Saturday—Acts 4: 22-37.

Servants whose arms are always folded accomplish but little.

More is made known in the Bible than in any other way.

Luther League Review

OFFCIAL ORGAN OF THE LUTHER LEAGUE

ISSUED MONTHLY BY THE

LUTHER LEAGUE OF AMERICA

IN THE INTERESTS OF

The Lutheran Church and her Young People.

Edited by E. F. Eilert,

WITH

W. C. STOEVER, Philadelphia, Pa.
S. G. WEISKOTTEN, Brooklyn, N. Y.
LUTHER M. KUHNS, Omaha, Neb.
I. S. RUNYON, New York, N. Y.

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Editorial

The calendar warns us of the flight of time and brings to mind that the year 1905 is rapidly passing away. Summer has followed spring, never to return. Eight of the twelve months have melted away, and it seems as though we are already on the threshold of 1906. The four months that are left, however, are very important. Vacations are over for another year, churches, schools and societies are opening, or have opened, for the fall and winter terms, and in the remaining months of the year a vast amount of good may be done. In all the branches of Church work, but especially in our Luther Leagues, there is one thing that will greatly increase the power for good—namely, a well defined plan of work. Let the work be what it will, whether local church or missionary work, if a set plan is pursued the results must be better than by traveling along from week to week and month to month, drifting here and there with no definite or fixed purpose in view.

There is probably no season of the year that brings to our notice the uncertainty of life more forcibly than the one which has just drawn to a close—namely, the summer season. Have you ever noticed how many accidents in various forms occur during this period? There is hardly one among us that cannot recall the sudden death of some one of our friends through some such accident. Many a young person leaves home beaming with joy, with never a thought that he is going on a journey never to return. Many a young man or young woman has gone sailing with a party of friends, when a sudden squall sprang up and overturned their boat and one or more of them was drowned. How little they thought that their time had come!

And so it is in our everyday life; we are very apt to put too much trust in our own strength and imagine that because we are young and strong and are not sickly we are in no danger of dying. In view, therefore, of the uncertainty of life let us be ever ready, so that when death calls us we can meet the awful messenger without dread. Is there one of us who, if he or she but knew when they were to be called before their Creator, would wish to be found unprepared? Let us, therefore, heed the words of our Saviour when He admonishes us to "Watch, therefore, for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of Man cometh." Are these not plain words? "Watch," for if we "Watch" aright we will live aright and death can never find us unprepared.

"Teach me to live, that I may dread
The grave as little as my bed;
Teach me to die, that thus I may
With joy behold the Judgment Day."

During our summer vacation we attended services at two different churches. In the one we were deeply impressed by the spirit of reverence and worship shown by young and old alike. In the other church we were greatly annoyed by the flippancy and irreverence displayed. One of the great lessons that this generation needs to learn is, that we go to God's house not to be entertained but to worship the Lord.

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There are many advantages to be derived from the meeting together of our members in conventions such as those recently held in several States and reported in this number, as well as those to be held this and next month. The interchange of ideas, the acquirement of knowledge of our Church and brethren not previously possessed, the goodly acquaintances formed, the fraternal greetings, and the engendering of thoughts, encouragements and inspirations, are all calculated to nerve us for fresh fields of conquest. But above all these is the discovery that as a Church we are not divided by as great a breach as we thought we were. We found that as different members of a family may differ upon certain matters, and yet be united in concern for the good and honor of the family, so we as Lutherans, while differing upon some points, can still come together in harmony, plan, devise and cooperate (without reference to any particular branch) for the highest good of the Church in general. May this spirit of united concern continue. And if, as some tell us, there can be no such a thing as organic union, there still can be a unity of spirit, desire, prayer and work toward sustaining the dignity and honor and advancing the interests of the mighty Church which was Luther's, in its entirety.

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Orders for badges are reaching us from all over the country. This little coat of arms of Luther is now worn by thousands all over our land, and more and more of our Lutheran people are wearing it. This is the time to order if your members are not yet supplied. Send for our circulars with description, prices, etc.

Publishers' Column

In announcing our Prize Story Contest in the last issue we failed to state the length of the story desired. The story must not contain less than 5,000 words, and be divided into at least five chapters.

For the benefit of those who failed to see the announcement in the last number we again print the same:

It is the purpose of the LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW to offer a prize for the three best stories submitted in a competitive contest. The first prize will be $25, the second prize $15 and the third prize $10. These stories must be original and of a character suitable for a publication like the LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW.

The following are the conditions: First, all stories entered for competition must be presented in typewritten form; second, a nom de plume must be used with the story and the key to the nom de plume mailed in a separate envelope to the editor of the REVIEW. All stories must be in the editor's hands not later than October 30, 1905. Third, all stories submitted, whether winning the prize or not, shall be the property of the LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW. Fourth, stories to consist of not less than 5,000 words and to be divided into at least five chapters.

The purpose in offering these prizes is to stimulate the literary effort of our young people. These stories will be submitted to a competent committee of three persons who shall be appointed to pass judgment upon the stories and select those three that shall be regarded as winning first, second and third prizes. The nom de plume and name of the writer will appear on the publishing of the story in the REVIEW.

In preparing the story for this contest care should be exercised in the selection of the plot, the literary finish and development of the plot and the point or teaching in the story. Due regard should be had for originality of conception and individuality in its development. Old manuscripts will not be received.

This contest is open to any and all of our Lutheran constituency. Each one competing should be careful to note the conditions and requirements outlined in this notice.

The number of Luther League Topics issued last month has been well received, and many new Leagues have taken up the study of the lessons. Copies are still to be had if you will order at once.

SING GOOD HYMNS

¶ Lutheran young people's societies should use hymns that express Lutheran ideas of religion.
¶ The hymns should be set to good, bright singable tunes—music that breathes the quiet devotion of Lutheran worship.

The Luther League Hymnal

is a collection of 250 just such hymns and tunes.
¶ Among them are hymns suitable for every season of the Church year and appropriate for every kind of religious service.
¶ The Hymnal has been adopted by State and local Leagues and societies in every part of the country.
¶ It has the endorsement of leading Lutheran ministers.
¶ Nicely and substantially bound in cloth.
¶ The prices are : words and music, single copy, 60 cents; per dozen, $6; words only, single copy, 20 cents; per dozen, $2. Postage or expressage prepaid.
¶ Special discounts on lots of 50, 100 or more.

Sample copies sent on receipt of price.

LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW
P. O. Box 876 New York City

Our Churches and Institutions

In Some of Our Large Cities

Philadelphia

—The building of the Church of the Incarnation, Forty-seventh street and Cedar avenue, Rev. N. R. Melhorn, pastor, was destroyed by fire on Saturday morning, August 19. The building was a pretty brick structure, erected three years ago, representing a value of $15,000. There is an insurance of $8,000. The church will take steps at once to rebuild.

—The German Society of Philadelphia proposes to erect a statue, at a cost of about $15,000, on the City Hall plaza to Rev. General Peter Muhlenberg, the historic character of the Revolutionary war and national statesman.

—St. Paul's German Lutheran congregation has elected the Rev. George von Bosse, of Liverpool, N. Y., as successor to the late Rev. F. Wischan. Rev. Von Bosse several years ago was for two years assistant to Rev. Wischan.

—Rev. J. H. Weaver, of Centre Brunswick, N. Y., has been elected successor to Rev. N. E. Yeiser, as pastor of the Parkside Mission.

—A mission is being organized at Clearview. Mr. Lloyd W. Walker, a student of the Selinsgrove Theological Seminary, who has been appointed missionary to the Young People's Societies of the Philadelphia Conference, General Synod, is assisting the missionary superintendent to organize this mission, and will serve as pastor of the Lester Mission at the same time.

—Rev. Dr. R. B. Peery concluded his work with Immanuel Church on September 1. Dr. and Mrs. Peery expect to return to Japan within a year, and meantime will give special attention to Mrs. Peery's health, which has become somewhat impaired.

Chicago

—The name of Hans Christian Anderson is to be honored by the erection and dedication in his memory of an orphans' home in this city, to cost $16,000. Most of the funds have been collected at anniversaries held in honor of the world's distinguished children's friend. These collections were supplemented by a gift of $2,000 from the widow of the late Carl Fenger, M. D., a Dane, who was surgeon at the Passavant Hospital.

Washington

—Rev. D. B. Floyd has resigned the pastorate of the West Washington Lutheran Church, to accept the professorship of Hebrew and Old Testament Exegesis, in Susquehanna University, at Selinsgrove, Pa.

—The addition to the Home for the Aged was formally opened Sunday afternoon, July 23, and with it a large room in the building was set apart for use as a chapel in memory of Mrs. A. V. Hamma, the first president of the Board of Lady Managers. Rev. Dr. Parson conducted the services. Two aged persons have just been admitted to the Home.

—The Church of the Redeemer, Rev. D. E. Wiseman, pastor, recently celebrated the twentieth anniversary of the laying of its cornerstone. The Lutheran Evangelist, in its report of the event, bears good testimony to the value of the work this church does among the colored people of the Capital City.

San Francisco

Since the withdrawal of the Rev. E. Nelander, the Church of the Redeemer has been without a pastor, and the work has been under the care of Rev. O. H. Gruver, of Oakland, and W. E. Crouser, of San Jose. The congregation is composed of a number of earnest people, deeply interested in the mission, anxious to help the right man push it to a permanent success.

Cincinnati

—A bequest of about $15,000 was left to the First Lutheran Church of this city by the late Mrs. Hannah Weber.

Baltimore

—St. Luke's Church celebrated, August 6, the fifth anniversary of the pastorate of Rev. George E. Hipsley.

Wilmington

—Missionary work is about to begin in this city under the auspices of the Advisory Mission Committee of the Philadelphia Conference, General Synod.

Allegheny

—Bethel Lutheran Church, Rev. C. B. King, pastor, bought the building of the First Congregational Church of this city. The lot is 75 x 130 feet. The church is built of brick and stone, has a bowled floor, fine oak pews, a $3,500 pipe organ, and will seat 600 people. The Sunday school is a frame building, of four parts, seating 500 persons. The two buildings are connected by sliding doors. The plant originally cost $42,000. It was bought for $23,000. It is regarded as a great advance movement for Lutheranism in the Twin Cities. The building was reconsecrated September 3.

Duluth

—The First Swedish Lutheran Church has sold its former church property for $8,500. The congregation has decided to erect a new church building of stone and brick, which will cost at least $15,000. The work has already begun.

Louisville

—Grace Lutheran Church, Rev. J. F. F. Kayhoe, pastor, became self-sustaining in February last, and on July 17 a mortgage of $2,000 was paid. The church is now free from all indebtedness.

Syracuse

—The Church of the Atonement, Rev. E. L. Tucker, pastor, has begun work on its new church edifice, which will be 38 x 60 feet, and will cost $6,000.

Portland

—On August 27 the new building of the Danish church here was consecrated by Rev. A. H. Jensen, president of the United Danish Church.

Miscellaneous

—Trinity Lutheran Church, Juniata, Pa., will soon begin the erection of a new building, in the English gothic style of architecture, to seat 1,000 people, and costing $20,000.

—Carnegie, Pa., a town of 15,000 people, recently made the end of a division of the Wabash railroad, is to have a Lutheran church. Mr. R. H. Bergstresser, of Selinsgrove, has begun the work, and has found a number of families ready to join the organization.

—There was no ordination in connection with this year's meeting of the New York Ministerium, as there were no candidates.

—Six young men want to study for the ministry at Columbus, but have not the means to meet all expenses.

—Mrs. Helen C. Beegle has been appointed by the Executive Committee of the Woman's Missionary Society of the General Synod as field secretary. Her duty will be the organization of new societies in the churches and increasing interest in the work of the society.

—It is estimated that about 20,000 people attended the nineteenth annual reunion of the Lutheran Church at Pen-Mar July 27.

—One of the hopeful signs for the future of Lutheranism in the West is the fact that the Norwegian Synod, at its recent meeting at Minneapolis, Minn., resolved to publish an English weekly church paper and an English hymn book.

—A conference of leading members of several Lutheran Church bodies was held recently at Fort Wayne, Ind., for the purpose of discussing the church creed and to ascertain if some common ground of church policy, permitting union of all Lutheran bodies in America, cannot be effected. The conference numbered 300 delegates, and was a continuation of like conferences previously held at Watertown, Wis., and Detroit, Mich.

—A proposition to use the English language on the floor of the Synod was discussed at the late meeting of the Missouri Synod, but did not carry. The question will, however, be brought up at the next meeting by a special committee. The matter is now considered urgent, since the reception of the English pastors and churches into the Synod.

—There is said to be fifteen different nationalities represented in the Lutheran Church in America. Their children will want English churches, and the various Lutheran Synods must make much greater efforts to hold them by this means. There are Americans, English, Germans, Swedish, Norwegians, Danes, Icelanders, Finns, Canadians, Irish, Scotch, Russians, Austrians, French, Hungarians, Galicians, etc., being gathered in by the English Lutheran Churches.

—The committee appointed to look up a site for the West Coast Academy of the United Norwegian Synod, has decided upon Everett, Washington, as the most favorable location. The Everett Improvement Company donates two blocks of land worth $5,000. The Chamber of Commerce pledges $1,500 in cash and the Norwegians of Snohomish County have agreed to procure $15,000 toward buildings, etc.

—Hebron, Madison County, Va., is the oldest Lutheran congregation in the South. The original church building, familiarly known as the "Old Dutch Church," is the oldest Lutheran church, it is believed, in the United States now in use and in the possession of Lutherans. The original church was built in 1740, from money collected in Europe, by Rev. John Casper Stoever, Michael Smith and Michael Holden. It was a plain frame structure, rectangular in form, with a small vestry room back of the pulpit.

—The little log church, which was erected at Muskego, Wind Lake, Wis., in 1843, and which was the first Norwegian church built in this country, has been removed to St. Anthony Park, St. Paul, by enterprising members of the United Norwegian Church, at an expense of $2,000. New outside walls have been erected all around the old building, so as to protect the original log walls.

—Dr. George B. Cromer was elected president of the Interdenominational Sunday School Convention of Newberry County, S. C., at its annual meeting.

—Rev. I. O. Baker, of Erie, Pa., was elected president of the Lutheran Chautauqua Association.

—Ex-Senator Wellington, of Maryland, presented a statuette of Martin Luther to Midland College.

—A volume of 300 pages will be issued as a memorial to Rev. S. B. Barnitz, D.D., missionary and Western secretary. The book will be dedicated to the Women's Home and Foreign Missionary Societies. Rev. W. E. Parson, D.D., is the author.

—In the Lutheran principality of Waldeck-Pyrmont, a merchant, Louis Peter, presented to his native town a beautiful church building complete in every way, even to the hymn books in the pews. No better monument could possibly be built than this.

—The Russian Czar has restored to the Lutheran congregations the right to use the German language in their parochial schools. A like concession has been made to the Finns in the use of their language.

—The chaplain of the South Carolina penitentiary reports that every denomination in the State except the Lutheran Church has representatives in that institution.

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Luther League

Conducted by I. S. RUNYON

SEND IN THE NEWS.—Under this heading we aim to give the fullest reports possible of all District and Local Leagues. Secretaries and other officers are earnestly solicited to send in reports and items of news promptly.

Luther League of America

Organized at Pittsburg, Pa., October 30 and 31, 1895, by delegates representing State, District and individual organizations from twenty different States in the Union and District of Columbia.

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NEW YORK.

—The twelfth annual convention of the Luther League of the State of New York will be held in the city of Hudson, September 19, 20 and 21, 1905. The sessions, which will be both business and religious, will be held in St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, the Rev. P. W. Koller, pastor. The arrangements for the convention are being perfected rapidly, and the indications are that it will be one of the most successful in the history of the State League. The program will be a most interesting one, full of helpful thoughts and ideas, and of especial benefit to the young people. The speakers are to be all men of eloquent address, among them several of national repute. The convention will take for its motto and guiding influence the

very essence of twentieth century progress embodied in these words: "The Luther League—Onward and Upward." Mayor Hallenbeck, of Hudson, will welcome the convention to the city, and the convention sermon will be preached by the Rev. J. Luther Sibole, of Buffalo, president of the Buffalo District League. The Rev. Luther M. Kuhns, of Omaha, Neb., the general secretary of the National League, will conduct a question box on practical League methods. Mr. E. F. Eilert, A.M., of New York, editor of the Luther League Review, will give a report of the national convention held recently in Buffalo. Mr. Wallace A. Sidney, of Central Bridge, will speak on "Effective Committee Work," and Mr. I. Searles Runyon, of New York, will speak on "The District League." Among other speakers prominent in the League will be D. W. P. Meyerholz, president of the Brooklyn District League; Mr. Wm. C. Stoever, of Philadelphia, Pa., president of the Luther League of America; Mr. W. L. Bradt, of Binghamton; the Rev. F. H. Knubel of New York; Sister Regina, deaconess of Christ Church, New York City, and Mr. John F. Dinkey, of Rochester, former president of the State League. The State League during the twelve years of its existence has had a steady, healthful growth, and its prospects were never brighter or more promising than at the present. It has a representation in nearly every county in the State through its eight district and 100 local Leagues. The attendance at this convention will undoubtedly be a large one, and in order that all who care to attend may do so, the Executive Committee has secured reduced rates on all railroads to Hudson. It is therefore earnestly hoped that each society will send a full delegation to the convention. The officers of the State League are: President, James M. Reynolds, of Valatie; vice presidents, Archibald A. Coney, of Canajoharie; D. W. P. Meyerholz, of Brooklyn; Rev. J. Luther Sibole, of Buffalo; William H. Rector, of Binghamton; Henry D. Brandes, of New York; John M. Shook, of Hudson; William J. Steinhauser, of Rochester; Irving E. Hurst, of Syracuse; recording secretary, F. E. Steinhauser, of Rochester; corresponding secretary, Eugene A. Hieber, of Utica; statistical secretary, Henry D. Brandes, of New York; treasurer, Louis C. Smith, of Albany.

New York City District

—On account of the convention of the State League, the next delegates' meeting of the District League has been postponed to Monday, September 25.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Northwestern District

—The District Luther League of Northwestern Pennsylvania held its thirteenth annual convention in the Swedish Lutheran Church, Titusville, Rev. Oscar O. Nelson, pastor, August 22-24. The opening services on Tuesday evening, August 22, were conducted by the pastor. Words of welcome were spoken by Mr. Frank Billstone, president of the local Luther League, and by the pastor, Rev. Nelson. They referred to the fact that this convention was the first ever held in the only Swedish church connected with the District League. The Titusville young people's society was the first Swedish organization in Western Pennsylvania (if not in the entire State) to take the name "Luther League," and this convention was the first English speaking body they had ever entertained. This shows that the Luther League is accomplishing one of the great objects for which it was organized. Rev. Frank C. Oberly, of Greenville, in behalf of the delegates and visitors, responded to the addresses of welcome. Delegation greetings were delivered from ten of the eleven Leagues of the District. After the services a delightful reception was tendered the delegates and visitors by the members of the local League, on the church lawn. At the first regular session of the convention, Wednesday morning, fifty-two regular delegates and fourteen visitors were enrolled. At this session Rev. W. E. Frey, chairman of the committee to draft a new constitution, read the report of the committee, which was adopted, and the District Luther League of Northwestern Pennsylvania now has a constitution that harmonizes in every particular with the constitutions of both the State and National Leagues. Rev. Nelson, who had been appointed a committee to interest the Swedish young people of the district in the work of the Luther League, reported that many Swedish pastors and their young people are considered very favorably the idea of uniting with the Luther League movement. The general topic for discussion at this session was the devotional work of the Luther League. Mr. Roy Catlin, of Erie, read an excellent paper on "Daily Bible Study and Prayer," and Miss Emma Carlson, of Renovo, read an ably prepared paper on "Self Denial as a Fundamental Basis for the Success of the Christian Worker." Miss Johnson, of Titusville, opened the discussion on the first topic, and both topics were discussed with deep interest. At the afternoon session the general topic for discussion was the missionary work of the Luther League. Miss Clara Dimpelfeld, of Erie, and Rev. C. T. Benze, of Erie, presented the topic, "Providing for the Immigrant," and Rev. W. E. Frey, of Erie, in a way that showed an intimate knowledge of the subject, explained "The Value of Education and Industrial Training in the Work of Foreign Missions." The session adjourned at 3:15 to allow the delegates to attend in a body the funeral of Miss Selma Munson, vice president of the Titusville Luther League, who died suddenly on Sunday evening, August 20. Miss Munson had been active in the preparations for the en-

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tertainment of the convention. The main feature of the Wednesday evening session was the address by Rev. W. H. Fehr, of Pittsburg, on the subject, "Our Foreign Mission Duty." The speaker reviewed the work of missionaries among the heathen, dwelling especially upon the fields under Lutheran supervision. In speaking about India, which commands most attention from the Foreign Mission Boards of the General Council and General Synod, he said that the willingness of the people of India to send their children to the Lutheran schools is a sure sign of the decay of Hindooism, and as Dr. Harpster declares, "India is ripe for the gospel." Rev. Fehr spoke especially of the school conditions and of the wonderful advancement in the last few years. A report from delegates from the various local Leagues revealed the fact that six native students are being supported in the Christian schools of India by Leagues in this District. The Thursday morning session took up the recommendations made to District Leagues by the State Luther League at the convention held in October, 1904. All were adopted and recommended to the local Leagues. The general topic for discussion at this session was the educational work of the Luther League "The Training Afforded by the Luther League Literature," was presented in an able manner by Miss Ethelene McDaniel, of Corry, and Miss Frieda Miller, of Greenville, and the topic was discussed by delegates. Mrs. C. J. Frantz, of Warren, and Miss Edith Hirt, of Erie, presented the topic, "The Training Afforded by Other Activities of the League," and this topic was discussed in an interesting manner. The afternoon session was devoted entirely to business. Each local League was urged to respond to the request of the National League for 10 cents per capita toward the salary fund for the General Secretary. The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Mr. J. L. Frederick, Greenville; vice president, Mr. F. A. Billstone, Titusville; secretary, Zoe Hirt, 1016 Wayne street, Erie, Pa.; treasurer, Clara Eckhardt, 720 Market street, Warren, Pa. The following were appointed regular delegates to the convention of the State Luther League, at Williamsport, October 24-25: Mr. F. A. Billstone, Rev. C. T. Benze, Mr. C. Shimmelfeng, F. H. Schutte and J. L. Frederick. The visiting delegates were taken by the members of the local League for a three hour trolley ride through the oil country about Titusville on Thursday afternoon. The final meeting of the convention was held on Thursday evening. The church was crowded, for it was known that the address of the evening was to be given by that most enthusiastic of Luther Leaguers, Secre-

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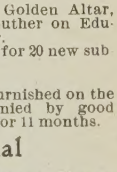

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tary Luther M. Kuhns. Rev. Kuhns' subject was "Lutheran Ideas." He said that ideas have made men instruments in the hand of God to accomplish the great work of all ages. An idea, and Abraham went out of Ur of the Chaldees and became the father of that people through whom all nations of the earth are blessed. An idea, and Moses led his people out of Egypt into the land of promise. An idea, and Paul became the great apostle to the Gentiles. An idea, and Martin Luther brought about the great reformation of the sixteenth century. The Luther League of America stands as an idea to furnish to the church a trained laity. The speaker said that the aim of every Leaguer should be to make his League the conserver to the church of the young people of his parish. In concluding, he urged every delegate to "go home and do something." After Rev. Kuhns' address, Mr. C. Schimmelfeng, of Warren, gave a brief report of the national convention held in Buffalo in August, 1904, and Rev. C. T. Benze reported on the meeting of the State League held in Pittsburg last October. The League of Butler has withdrawn to join a District League nearer at hand. The new League of St. Paul's Church, Corry, was admitted to membership. The convention was a marked and decided success, to which much was contributed by the generous hospitality of the Titusville League.—Zoe Hirt, Secretary.

Upper Lehigh Valley District

—The Luther League of St. John's Church, East Mauch Chunk, Rev. W. C. L. Lauer, pastor, will place a large memorial window in the front of the church building.

Schuylkill County District

—The twelfth annual convention of the Schuylkill County District League was held in the Church of the Ascension, Quakake Junction, on Monday, September 4. A complete report may be expected in the next issue.

Lancaster District

—A Lutheran reunion, in which the Luther League and its work were prominent, was that held August 18, at Rocky Springs, near Lancaster, in honor of the organization of the first Lutheran Synod in America, which occurred at Philadelphia, August 15-18, 1748. The exercises were conducted by Mr. W. M. Maerig, president of the Lancaster District League. Prof. George T. Ettinger, of Muhlenberg College, made an address on education. Rev. Luther M. Kuhns spoke earnestly and with good effect on four elements in good church work—acquaintance, educational work, loyalty to the pastor and missions. Rev. F. J. F. Schantz, D.D., of Meyerstown, ex-president of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania, spoke in a reminiscent way. Before this service there was an exercise for the children, conducted by Rev. C. L. Fry, Literature Secretary of the Luther League of America. This began with a procession, at the head of which were carried a national flag decorated with the League colors and a banner representing the Keystone, with the Luther League badge upon it. This banner bore the names of the towns and villages within the bounds of the District League.

Northeastern District

—Holy Trinity Lutheran League, Wapwallopen, recently made a collection, amounting to $3.25 for the benefit of the Slovak mission fund. This shows a very good mission spirit, as the League is composed of only about twenty members.

OREGON.

—"Luther Day," in connection with the Lewis and Clark Exposition, was an important event to the Lutherans of the Pacific Coast and for our church here. Exercises under the auspices of the churches in and around Portland were held morning, afternoon and evening of Sunday, July 30, in the Marquam Grand Theatre. Among the speakers were: Rev. George H. Trabert, D.D., Minneapolis; Rev. Prof. H. Ernst, D.D,. St. Paul; Rev. A. Krause, Portland; Rev. Nils G. Twedt, Minneapolis; Rev. Prof. K. Anker, Blair, Neb.; Rev. J. Jesperson, Spokane; Rev. H. A. W. Yung, Seattle. The evening service was under the auspices of the Luther League, conducted by Rev. J. A. Leas. The principal address was delivered by Rev. E. F. W. Pihlblad, president of Bethany College, Ludsborg, Kan. The music, under the direction of Dr. Keefer, was appropriate and inspiring.

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The House of God ought to be the most beautiful in the world; those of sinners ought to be small and mean in comparison with it.

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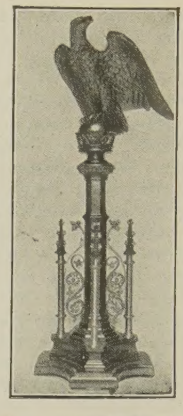

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